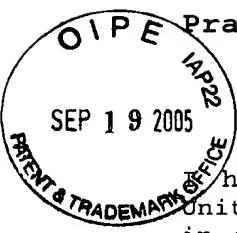


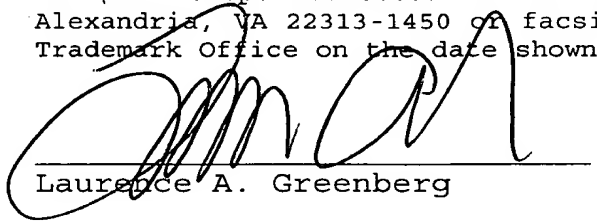
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Practitioner's Docket No.: HEM 98/644 (HA-2494)

CERTIFICATION OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

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Laurence A. Greenberg

September 16, 2005
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/481,640 Confirmation No.: 5923
Applicant : David Elliott Whitten, et al.
Filed : January 12, 2000
Title : Variable Length Cutting Device
Art Unit : 3724
Examiner : Clark F. Dexter
Customer No. : 24131

A M E N D M E N T

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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01 FC:1201 400.00 OP
02 FC:1251 120.00 OP

S i r :

Responsive to the Office action dated May 25, 2005, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.